

act, a measure which we think will add greatly to our national prestige as well as our commercial development. The passage of the pure food bill is also an upward step and means infinite betterment of the great army of consumers who have long been the victims of the cupidity of unscrupulous manufacturers of food products. These and many other enactments unerringly indicate that the day of better things is upon us and we are glad to challenge your attention to the improvement. Nor is Nebraska lagging in the procession of progress. The public pulse here is keenly alive to every element entering into the attainment of just and equitable laws and the only discordant note is that sounded by the professional 'reformers' whose creed is self interest and whose sincerity is a minus quantity. All parties are afflicted with these unique characters, but fortunately by their fruits we know them. The pendulum swings over a described arc but it is not at the extreme ends that the real work is performed. The middle ground is the real center of energy and from that point proceeds the accomplishment of genuine, practical results.

"I am pleased to note that the first message our friend brings to this country is a 'message of peace.' With interest I have read his utterance regarding the progress of the cause of international arbitration and I am glad to have his assurance that the day is fast approaching when force and violence will give way to a peaceful solution of vexed questions. In this connection it is especially pleasing to recall the very practical and efficient action of President Roosevelt in connection with the drafting and adoption of the Portsmouth treaty, which ended the war between Russia and Japan and determined the final differences existing between those belligerent nations. In the face of the extreme difficulties presented, and which you will remember, the efforts of the president of this republic were heroic and to him largely belongs the credit for the restoration of peace. This is an indication of the trend of popular sentiment in America along peaceful lines and I believe the time is coming, and not far distant, when pacific diplomacy at Washington will dissipate the war clouds, no matter on what horizon they appear.

"We all believe that the ultimate destiny of America is to become the dominating influence in the control of the world's affairs. There are many evidences that we have arrived at that state of development already, but if so we believe our pre-eminence will become more marked as the years pass by. Such a national attainment brings with it an infinite responsibility. It is a responsibility which all citizens must share. If we are, or are to become, the great national exemplar of power, dignity and enlightenment each individual must live well his part and make some substantial contribution to the fund of national excellence. Our personal tasks and duties can not be discharged by others. It is only as we assume and perform the individual obligations of citizenship that the condition of the body politic can be raised to the highest plane. We must have leaders, but it ought not to be necessary for these leaders to live far in advance of public opinion. Rather it should be their happy lot to crystallize public thought into definite action instead of educating the popular mind to the necessity for such action.

It is not possible for us all to see alike and there are honest differences of opinion affecting every great question. The best assurance we have of continued progress is that all national problems are studied from more than one viewpoint. All virtue is not confined to one political party, nor is all evil bound up in the other. We need more of the spirit of tolerance and reason in our mutual relations. It would be a blessing if we could have less of politics and more of patriotism.

"But we are here to briefly welcome our distinguished guest back to the 'simple life,' though we doubt if we can hold him to it very long. Speaking from the standpoint of my party he has caused us a good deal of uneasiness in the past and has strong symptoms of continuing to do so in the future. There is that breadth, virility and emphasis about him which must find expression and it is but natural that his party looks to him as its leader. We hope that the inspiration of this formal home-coming, expressive as it is of the confidence, devotion and esteem of those who know him best, may give him renewed courage for the discharge of his arduous duties and strengthen him in the advocacy of all principles which make for the national good."

Mayor Brown then presented Mr. Bryan, and cheering lasting one minute followed. Mr. Bryan said:

Mr. Mayor, Governor, Members of the Re-

ception Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen: In the Arabic language there are some six hundred words which mean 'camel,' and for the last few days I have been wishing that there were that many words in the English language that meant 'thank you.' I have had occasion to use the old familiar term 'thank you' a great many times since I landed in New York. In London I had occasion to regret that I could speak but one language in that meeting where the representatives of twenty-six nations were assembled, but if I could speak all the languages known to man I would not be able to express the gratitude which my wife and I feel for the generous welcome that has been extended to us on our return home. The home folks met us in the harbor of New York, and I never looked into the faces of a group of friends more gladly in my life. They took charge of us, and they have floated us on the stream of welcome 1,500 miles long, several leagues wide, and of immeasurable depth, until that stream has emptied itself in this ocean of good will. To come home to those among whom we live and find this kindly feeling touches our hearts; to find those who differ from us in political opinion vying with those who agree with us to make our reception delightful, more than pays us for anything that we have been able to do.

"It was kind of our dear old minister to offer the invocation and my heart joins his in its ascent to the throne of God in gratitude for that providence that has kept us from the dangers of foreign lands and brought us safely from the perils of the deep. It is kind in the chief executive of the city to welcome us to this, his rich domain; and it is kind in the governor of this great state to join in giving us a greeting as we come home. The fact that this man, with whom I have not always been able to entirely agree, has overlooked the opposition that has sometimes arisen, only shows how much there is in life that we can enjoy together, and how little after all political differences ought to count between men. I might describe it thus, that the things that we hold in common are like sunshine of the day, while partisan differences are like the clouds that come and in a moment pass away.

"I am glad to be here with you, and I speak for my wife and children as well as for myself, when I thank you a thousand, thousand times. I don't know how I can repay you for the joy you have given us, unless you will permit me as occasion offers to bring such lessons as I am able to bring from what we have observed in other lands. When we conceived this trip around the earth it was with the belief that there would be education in it. We thought so highly of it that we were willing to take the children out of school for a year, and I believe that it was worth more than a year's education. But it has been instructive far beyond what we imagined, and we have been able to store up information that will not only be valuable in the years to come, but will give us something to reflect upon in the closing years of our lives. I have for years appreciated the honor and the responsibility of American citizenship. Twenty-two years ago when I returned to my college to receive the masters' degree I took as the subject of my address, 'American Citizenship,' and as I recall the language that I then used I am sure that even then I understood somewhat of the importance of our nation's position among the nations of the earth. During the nearly a quarter of a century that has elapsed my appreciation of my nation's greatness has increased, but never so much as in the last twelve months have I grown in the pride that I have in my nation.

"Following the sun in his course around the globe I have noted everywhere the effect of American influence. Before I left home I had spoken at times of altruism and its part in the world's affairs. But, my friends, I have learned something of altruism since I was last among you, and I affirm without fear of contradiction that there is no nation on earth which manifests such disinterested friendship for the human race as this dear land of ours. Not only do I affirm that our nation has no equal living, but I affirm that history presents no example like ours. In many ways our nation is leading the world. I have found in every land I have visited a growth of ideas that underlie our government. A century and a quarter ago certain political doctrines were planted on American soil, and those doctrines have grown and spread until there is not a nation on earth that has not felt the impulse that was started in this country at that time. There is not a nation in the world in which the democratic idea is not moving and moving powerfully today. Go into Japan and you will find that they not only have a representative government, but that they are continually endeavoring

to make that government more responsible to the whole people. Go into China, that great nation that has slumbered for twenty centuries, and you will find that there is a stirring there and that her empress has within a year sent commissioners abroad to investigate the institutions of other lands for the purpose of granting a constitutional government to the flowery kingdom.

"Within a year public opinion in Russia has forced a reluctant czar to grant a douma, and while that douma has been dissolved it has been dissolved with the promise that another shall take its place. Not only do you find the democratic sentiment—and I need not tell you that I use the word in no partisan sense for I think democracy means, the rule of the people—not only is this spreading, but education is spreading throughout the world.

"It is still true that millions, yes, hundreds of millions, sit in darkness. It is true that in one of the nations of the Orient scarcely one in a hundred can read intelligently a letter written to him. It is true that in another Oriental nation less than one per cent of the women can read and write. It is true that you find many places where there is great intellectual darkness, but my friends, in every nation which I visited there is growth, there is progress. A viceroy, the oldest one of China, declared that in five years he had established four thousand schools in his one district; that in a nation which until recently knew nothing of the public school. I found that even in Turkey they are beginning to realize the necessity for education, and one of the governors of one of the Turkish states told me that it was necessary that the people of Turkey should be educated if they were going to hold any place among the nations of the earth. Not only are they establishing public schools, but, my friends, they are establishing private schools. Not only private schools, but schools supported by contributions from abroad.

"All over the Orient you will find schools established by Americans and supported by money contributed each year by Americans interested in the cause of education. And after having visited these schools and churches which stand beside them we find similar schools at every point at which we stopped in the Orient. When I reached Bombay and found there also these schools supported by American philanthropists, I told them that if we could not boast that the sun never set on our possessions, we could boast that it never set upon American philanthropy. I am proud of this work that my country is doing, and none of us are wise enough to look into the future and see what wonderful work may be done by these boys and girls who owe their intellectual training to the benevolence of American citizenship. And in the presence of these ladies who grace this occasion let me say, that one who travels abroad, especially in the Orient, learns to appreciate what America does for the woman. There is no other nation in which woman stands as high as she does in the United States. There is no other nation in which woman so nearly approaches the position that the Creator intended her to fill. I have had some difficulty in bringing my countrymen to accept the double standard as applied to money. (Laughter). I think, however, they will agree with me when I apply the double standard to man and woman, and they will forgive me if I consent to a change in the ratio of 16 to 1 to 1 to 1. (Laughter and applause.)

"Another thought that has impressed itself upon me is the superiority of our religion over the religions of the east. When I visited China I had a high conception of the philosophy of Confucius, but when I had seen Confucianism applied to human life and exemplified in Chinese society; when I had studied the words of Confucius I lost my admiration for the philosophy of Confucius, if you attempt to contrast it with the philosophy of Jesus Christ. I found that there were two points where this system came into direct antagonism. I have heard it said that Confucius gave what was equivalent to the golden rule when he said: 'Do not unto others that which you would not have others do unto you.' But if you will examine the difference you will find that there is a world wide space between the negative doctrine of Confucius and the positive doctrine of the Nazarene. The negative doctrine is not sufficient. Life means something better than negative harmlessness; it means positive helpfulness—love for mankind.

"Once when Confucius was asked what he thought of the doctrine that you should do good to those who injure you, his reply was that you should recompense good with good, and evil with justice, but Christ says love your enemies, and

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